

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, DA, CU, AO, US
SUBJECT: DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY ENDORSES CUBAN INTER-
VENTION IN ANGOLA

1. TODAY'S (OCT 27) DANISH PRESS IS FULL OF REPORTS AND COMMENTS
ON FONMIN K.B. ANDERSEN'S STATEMENTS MADE IN BRASILIA ON THE
CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA. PROBABLY THE MOST COMPLETE ACCOUNT,
BASED ON RITZAUSBUREAU (DANISH WIRE SERVICE), AFP AND SPECIAL CORR-
ESPONDENTS, WAS CARRIED IN BERLINGSKE TIDENDE (INDEPENDENT CONSER-
VATIVE) AND IA QUOTED BELOW:

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A. "FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN WEDNESDAY SURPRISED
BRAZILIAN REPORTERS BY MAKING PROSITIVE COMMENTS ON CUBA'S INTER-
VENTION IN THE CIVIL WAR IN ANGOLA...

B. ANDERSEN IS QUOTED BY THE FRENCH WIRE AGENCY, AFP, TO SAY
THAT EVEN IF DENMARK STANDS FOR 'AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROB-
LEMS,' ANY GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUEST HELP WHERE IT CAN

BE OBTAINED. ANGOLA DID NOT RECEIVE ANY HELP FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST (PORTUGAL'S) COLONIALISM AND 'INSTEAD SOUGHT SUPPORT FROM COUNTRIES WILLING TO GIVE IT, 'K.B. ANDERSEN SAID ACCORDING TO AFP.

C. "SEVERAL BRAZILIAN REPORTERS THEN OBJECTED THAT CUBA INTERVENED IN AN INTERNAL CONFLICT IN ANGOLA AND NOT IN A FIGHT AGAINST PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM. 'WE HAVE VERY DIFFERENT OPINIONS ON WHAT HAPPENED (IN ANGOLA),' ANDERSEN SAID AND ADDED THAT HE HAD VISITED ANGOLA AFTER IT HAD BECOME INDEPENDENT AND KNOWS ABOUT CONDITIONS THERE

D. " IN A CONVERSATION WITH DANISH JOURNALISTS IN SAO PAULO, ANDERSEN CONFIRMED THE AFP WIRE STORY AND HIS STATEMENTS ON CUBA AND ANGOLA AS REPORTED FROM THE PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRASILIA. ANDERSEN EMPHASIZED HIS VIEW THAT CUBA HAD ONLY INTERVENED MILITARILY IN ANGOLA IN BEHALF OF THE MARXIST LIBERATION MOVEMENT MPLA AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOVEREIGN ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT."

2. BERLINGSKE COMMENTED THAT "THE MPLA WAS ABLE TO CONSTITUTE THE NEW ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT AS THE RESULT OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE FROM THE SOVIET UNION VIA CUBA. THE FOREIGN MINISTER THUS IGNORED THE FACT THAT IT WAS THE CUBAN INTERVENTION WHICH GAVE VICTORY TO THE MPLA. ANDERSEN MAINTAINED THAT THE CUBANS HAD ONLY INTERVENED AFTER SOUTH AFRICA HAD GIVEN SUPPORT TO ... UNITA, ALTHOUGH THE OPPOSITE WAS THE CASE."

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3. JYLLANDS POSTEN, DENMARK'S OTHER LARGE CONSERVATIVE DAILY, ALSO TODAY EDITORIALY CASTIGATED ANDERSEN ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. HE HAD CREATED "AN EMBARRASSING SITUATION. CONTRARY TO HISTORY, ANDERSEN DEFENDED THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN TROOPS IN AFRICA AND STATED THAT THEY WERE SUMMONED TO HELP THE AFRICANS AGAINST PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM. BUT THE CUBANS CAME ONLY AFTER THE PORTUGUESE HAD LEFT. THE CUBANS INTERFERRED IN A CIVIL WAR AND DECIDED IT--AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT--IN FAVOR OF PRESIDENT NETO AND HIS MARXISTS. BUT NETO MUST CONTINUALLY RELY FOR HIS POWER ON CUBAN GUNS AND MACHINE PISTOLS

B. "THE MARXIST CLIQUE IN POWER (IN ANGOLA) ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE CUBAN PRESENCE THERE. SO ARE THE CUBANS. ALSO THE SOVIETS, FOR WHOM THE CUBANS ACT, AND NOW K.B.

C. "WHAT A COMPANY FOR DANISH FOREIGN POLICY"

4. TODAY'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AKUEL commented that in reality ANDERSEN WAS ONLY SAYING THAT DENMARK STANDS FOR AFRICAN SOLUTIONS

TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS AND THAT IT IS THE OBVIOUS RIGHT OF ANY COUNTRY TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM ANOTHER. AKTUELST CONTINUED THAT "ANGOLA DID NOT RECEIVE ANY WESTERN SUPPORT IN ITS FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE AND THEREFORE SOUGHT SUPPORT FROM COUNTRIES WILLING TO GIVE IT."

5. CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER POUL SCHLUTER DESCRIBED ANDERSEN'S REPORTED STATEMENTS AS "A SCANDAL" AND AS "AN ENCOURAGEMENT FOR NEW CUBAN ACTIONS." SCHLUTER REPORTEDLY INTENDS TO BRING THE MATTER UP IN FOLKETING UPON ANDERSEN'S RETURN TO DENMARK.

6. LIBERAL PARTY MP ARNE CHRISTIANSEN, A MEMBER OF THE FOLKETING'S FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, CALLED FOR A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
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IMMEDIATELY AFTER ANDERSEN'S RETURN IN ORDER TO GET A FIRST-HAND REPORT OF WHAT HE SAID. "I WOULD NOT LIKE TO REGARD ANDERSEN'S STATEMENT AS KOWTOWING TO CUBA, THE NEXT STOP ON HIS TRIP."

7. AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPTEL.
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